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Employment and Earnings, Public Sector, Australia

Contains estimates of public sector employees and cash wages and salaries by level of government by state, and by industry

Reference period 2018-19 financial year

Released 7/11/2019

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Key statistics

- There were 2,046,700 public sector employees comprising:
- 242,100 employees in Commonwealth government;
- 1,610,600 in state government; and
- 194,000 in local government.
- Total cash wages and salaries was \$166,893.8 million.

Main features

Key figures

	Employees June 2019	Cash wages and salaries 2018-19
	'000	\$m
Commonwealth Government	242.1	22 155.1
State Government	1 610.6	131 441.3
Local Government	194.0	13 297.4
Total Public Sector	2 046.7	166 893.8

Coverage

- This collection covers public sector organisations, including Commonwealth and state/territory government organisations, local government authorities, public corporations, universities, non-profit institutions controlled by the government, government marketing boards, legislative courts, municipal authorities and other statutory authorities. Organisations are classified to Level of Government by determining the institutional unit (i.e. Commonwealth, state or local government) deemed to exercise control. The estimates in this release may differ from other available information due to differences in coverage and/or the classification of organisations. For further details, refer to paragraphs 33-38 of the Methodology.

Tables

1. Public sector employees, level of government - states and territories

	June 2018				June 2019			
	C'wealth	State	Local	Total	C'wealth	State	Local	Total
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
New South Wales	54.0	473.5	53.9	581.4	53.4	485.5	57.2	596.1
Victoria	47.2	369.9	50.5	467.7	48.8	386.7	52.5	488.0
Queensland	29.0	331.0	42.7	402.7	28.1	341.2	43.1	412.5
South Australia	14.7	116.1	11.1	141.9	14.0	122.2	10.9	147.1
Western Australia	12.7	173.6	22.4	208.7	12.8	177.6	23.2	213.5
Tasmania	5.2	np	np	51.2	5.1	np	np	53.3
Northern Territory	4.2	27.6	2.9	34.8	4.1	28.4	2.9	35.4
Australian Capital Territory	73.7	np	np	98.5	75.7	np	np	100.6
Australia	240.7	1 558.7	187.6	1 987.0	242.1	1 610.6	194.0	2 046.7

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

2. Public sector cash wages and salaries, level of government - states and territories

	2017-18				2018-19			
	C'wealth	State	Local	Total	C'wealth	State	Local	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
New South Wales	4 600.8	36 768.1	3 729.2	45 098.1	4 740.4	38 824.4	4 035.4	47 600.2
Victoria	4 139.7	28 763.2	3 118.0	36 020.9	4 494.7	30 791.4	3 260.7	38 546.9
Queensland	2 289.6	27 039.4	3 142.7	32 471.7	2 306.3	28 531.6	3 296.8	34 134.7
South Australia	1 289.4	9 253.4	789.3	11 332.1	1 250.3	9 860.2	803.5	11 914.0
Western Australia	984.1	14 822.1	1 395.2	17 201.5	1 032.9	15 049.1	1 469.3	17 551.3
Tasmania	416.7	np	np	3 843.3	431.9	np	np	4 083.5
Northern Territory	328.3	2 628.6	164.7	3 121.6	326.1	2 750.8	171.9	3 248.8
Australian Capital Territory	7 310.3	np	np	9 502.8	7 572.5	np	np	9 814.6
Australia	21 358.9	124 640.8	12 592.3	158 592.0	22 155.1	131 441.3	13 297.4	166 893.8

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

3. Public sector employees and cash wages and salaries, industry

	Employees		Cash wages and salaries	
	June 2018	June 2019	2017-18	2018-19
	'000	'000	\$m	\$m
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	48.2	48.9	5 255.3	5 475.7
Construction	8.6	8.6	859.8	879.7
Transport, postal and warehousing	82.6	82.5	7 269.4	7 426.0
Information media and telecommunications	17.2	16.9	1 709.0	1 729.2
Financial and insurance services	12.5	13.1	1 438.0	1 530.5
Rental, hiring and real estate services	4.9	5.2	432.4	440.3
Professional, scientific and technical services	27.1	26.5	2 526.6	2 538.1
Public administration and safety	615.0	636.8	51 609.8	54 843.2
Education and training	627.6	648.8	43 296.3	45 449.2
Health care and social assistance	509.5	526.9	41 859.9	44 389.8
Arts and recreation services	18.5	19.0	1 074.4	1 131.4
Other industries(a)	15.2	13.6	1 261.2	1 060.6
All industries	1 987.0	2 046.7	158 592.0	166 893.8

a. Includes Agriculture, forestry and fishing, Mining, Manufacturing, Wholesale trade, Retail trade, Accommodation and food services, Administrative and support services and Other services.

Inquiries

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. The [ABS Privacy Policy \(https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/Privacy?opendocument#from-banner=GB\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/Privacy?opendocument#from-banner=GB) outlines how the ABS will handle any personal information that you provide to us.

Data downloads

Public sector employees and cash wages and salaries

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[605 KB]

Previous catalogue number

This release previously used catalogue number 6248.0.55.002.

Methodology

[Employment and Earnings, Public Sector, Australia methodology, 2018-19 financial year](#)